761551N25A - SH-AD-32A

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT
A Tradition of Service

DATE: November 21, 2013
FILE NO:

OFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

FROM: BOBBY D. DENHAM, COMMANDER
NORTH PATROL DIVISION

TO: ROBERT M. RIFKIN, CAPTAIN
OPERATION SAFE STREETSBUREAU

SUBJECT: EXECUTIVE FORCE REVIEW COMMITTEE FINDINGS:

Case Number:	SH2306279
Incident:	Hit Shooting
Incident Date:	February 1, 2012
Unit:	Operation Safe Streets Bureau
Suspect:	Donald C. Handy, MW/07-16-43
Involved Employee:	Deputy Jeremi Edwards, #[redacted]
EFRC Date:	November 21, 2013

The Executive Force Review Committee (EFRC) consisting of Commanders Bobby Denham, Stephen Johnson, and Ralph Webb met and reviewed the above case.

FORCE POLICY RELATING TO INCIDENT:

Law Enforcement officers may use deadly force in self-defense or in the defense of others only when they reasonably believe death or serious physical injury is about to be inflicted upon themselves or others.

FINDINGS:

The Lancaster OSS Team and the Gang Enforcement Team were serving a search warrant for narcotics at the location. They announced their presence as they knocked on the front door then forced the door open with a ram. Once inside, detectives detained two people in the kitchen of the residence while a detective and a sergeant covered the entrance to the hallway. The sergeant saw a female Black walking up the hallway towards them.

The sergeant told her they were from the Sheriff's Department and were there to serve a warrant. He then ordered her to show him her hands. She raised her hands with her elbows bent as she walked towards them. The sergeant guided her towards another detective in order to finish clearing the back bedroom.

The suspect emerged from the back bedroom with a large, four foot long sword in his hand pointing it towards the sergeant as the suspect lunged at him with it. One of the detectives, fearing the suspect was going to kill the sergeant with the sword, shot the suspect three times. The suspect was subsequently transported to Antelope Valley Hospital by ambulance and pronounced dead at the hospital.

The EFRC determined the force used against the suspect was within Department policy. The EFRC also determined the tactics used were within Department policy.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

The EFRC recommended the unit commander, Captain Robert M. Rifkin, conduct a tactical debriefing with all involved personnel regarding the unique circumstances of this incident.

BDD:JER:jer

Table of Contents

IAB # SH2306279

AUDIO/VIDEO TRACKING SHEET

OFFICER INVOLVED SHOOTING FORM

INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY

TRANSCRIBED INTERVIEWS

- Homicide interview of Involved Employee Deputy Jeremi Edwards
- IAB interview of Involved Employee Deputy Jeremi Edwards
- Homicide interview of Witness Employee Sergeant Allen Harris
- IAB interview of Witness Employee Sergeant Allen Harris
- Homicide interview of Witness Employee Detective Charles Kovach
- IAB interview of Witness Employee Detective Charles Kovach
- Homicide interview of Witness Employee Detective Michael Rose
- IAB interview of Witness Employee Detective Michael Rose
- Homicide interview of Witness Employee Detective Daniel Welle
- IAB interview of Witness Employee Detective Daniel Welle
- Homicide interview of Witness Employee Detective Sarah Dieguez
- IAB interview of Witness Employee Detective Sarah Dieguez
- Homicide interview of Non-Employee Witness [redacted]
- IAB interview of Non-Employee Witness [redacted]
- Homicide interview of Non-Employee Witness [redacted]
- Homicide interview of Non-Employee Witness [redacted]

EXHIBITS

A	-	Homicide Case Book
B	-	(2) Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Scientific Services Bureau's Photographs of the sword
C	-	(6) Compact Discs depicting crime lab photographs of the Scene, Homicide Bureau Investigators' Interviews of Witnesses and Sworn Personnel, radio transmissions, Knock and Notice Announcement and Internal Affairs Bureau investigators' interviews
D	-	Consolidated Criminal History System Report for Suspect Donald Charles Handy

E - Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Scientific Services Bureau Sketch of the scene depicting markings by Deputy Edwards of his position as well Sergeant Harris and assisting team deputies' positions

F - Tactical Entry Plan

G - Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Scientific Services Bureau Sketch of the scene depicting markings by Sergeant Harris of his position as well as assisting team mates positions and Suspect Handy's position

H - Search Warrant Preparation Check List

I - Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Scientific Services Bureau Sketch of the scene depicting markings by Detective Kovach indicating his position as well as Sergeant Harris, Detective Edwards and a Female White and Male Black

J - Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Scientific Services Bureau Sketch of the scene depicting markings by Detective Rose indicating his position as well as Sergeant Harris, Detectives Edwards, Rose, Dieguez and Kovach and two People in the kitchen

K - Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Scientific Services Bureau Sketch of the scene depicting markings by Detective Welle indicating his position and Detective Edwards' position, but indicated other teammates' position by marking an "X".

L - Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Scientific Services Bureau Sketch of the scene depicting markings by Detective Dieguez indicating her and the general area of teammates inside the residence

MISCELLANEOUS DOCUMENTS

Weapons Qualification Report for Deputy Jeremi Edwards

Administrative Rights Force/Shooting Investigation Form for Deputy Jeremi Edwards

Administrative Rights Force/Shooting Investigation Form for Sergeant Allen Harris

Table of Contents- Continued

IAB # SH2306279

Table of Contents
Addendum
SH2306279

Audio/Video Tracking Sheet
Investigative Addendum Summary

Exhibits:

M- Copy of video clippings depicting paramedics treating Suspect Handy and taking him out of the residence on a stretcher; various rooms inside the residence

Miscellaneous Documents:

None

Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department
Officer Involved Shooting

Report Date: 02/04/2012	Bureau/Station/Facility: Operation Safe Streets/Gang Enforcement Team	Admin. Invest.? ☐ Hit? ☑

Incident Information

URN: 012-02089-1132-013	Date: 02/01/2012	Time: 2102 hours	
City or Station: Lancaster	Nature of Incident: Deputy Jeremi Edwards was serving a warrant at the location when he fired at Suspect Donald Handy who was wielding a sword.		
Location: [redacted] Spearman Avenue			

Location Type (*check one or more*):
☐ Backyard
☐ Beach
☐ Business
☐ Freeway
☐ Industrial
☐ Park
☐ Parking Lot
☑ Residence
☐ Rural
☐ School
☐ Street
Other:

Lighting (*check only one*):
☐ Darkness
☐ Daylight
☑ Other
☐ Street Lights

Weather (*circle only one*):
☑ Clear
☐ Cloudy
☐ Fog
☐ Rain

Distance: 5 Feet

Incident Type (*check one or more*):
☐ Accidental
☑ Armed Person
☐ Fleeing Suspect
☐ Foot Pursuit
☐ Gun Take Away
☐ Moving Vehicle
☐ Sniper/Ambush
☐ Startle
☐ Struggle Involved
☐ Traffic Stop
☐ Unarmed Person
☐ Unintentional
☐ Vehicle Pursuit
☐ Warrant Service
☐ Warning Shot
Other:

Initiated by (*check only one*):
☐ Arrest Warrant
☐ Call
☐ Observation
☐ One Person Unit
☐ Other
☑ Search Warrant
☐ Two Person Unit

Prior Activity (*check only one*):
☐ Detective
☐ Inmate Transport
☑ Other
☐ Routine Patrol

Aero Unit? ☑ Canine Unit? ☐

Total # of Shots Fired by Deputy	Total # of Shots Fired by Suspect
3	0

Employee Witnesses

Employee #	Last Name	First Name	M.I.	ShiftTime (*check only one*)	ShiftType (*check only one*)
[redacted]	Harris	Allen	M.	☐ EM ☑ PM ☐ Day	☑ Regular ☐ Overtime ☐ Off Duty
[redacted]	Kovach	Charles	J.	☐ EM ☑ PM ☐ Day	☑ Regular ☐ Overtime ☐ Off Duty
[redacted]	Welle	Daniel	E.	☐ EM ☑ PM ☐ Day	☑ Regular ☐ Overtime ☐ Off Duty

Non-Employee Witnesses

Last Name: [redacted]		First Name: [redacted]			M.I. [redacted]
Street Address: [redacted]	City: [redacted]	Zip Code: [redacted]	Work Ph: [redacted]	Home Ph: [redacted]	
Last Name: [redacted]		First Name: [redacted]			M.I. [redacted]
Street Address: [redacted]	City: [redacted]	Zip [redacted]	Work Ph [redacted]	[redacted]	
Last Name [redacted]					
Street Address [redacted]					

Supervisors

Employee #	Last Name	First Name	M.I.	(*check one or more*)
[redacted]	Harris	Allen	M.	☑ On Duty ☑ Present during shooting ☑ Witness to shooting ☐ Involved in shooting
				☐ On Duty ☐ Present during shooting ☐ Witness to shooting ☐ Involved in shooting

Watch Sergeant

Employee #	Last Name	First Name	M.I.

Watch Commander

Employee #	Last Name	First Name	M.I.
[redacted]	Tokar	Paula	L.

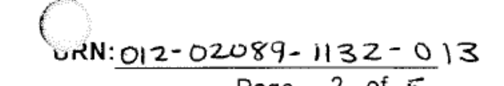
PSTD Use Only

SH # 2306279

SH-R-438A (rev. 04/18/13)

See Reverse

Officer Involved Shooting



Rollout Information

Arrival Date	Arrival Time	Date Submitted	Date of Recommendation
02/02/2012	0030 hours	10/25/2013	

Employee #	Last Name	First Name	M.I.
[redacted]	Ault	Alicia	E.
[redacted]	Kim	Patrick	
[redacted]	Allen	Victor	M.

Shooting / Force Information

Method

(AW) Arwen
(BC) Baton:(Control)
(BI) Baton:(Impact)
(BF) Bodily Fluids
(CN) Canine
(CR) Carotid Restraint
(CH) Choke Hold
(CT) Control Holds:(Control Techniques)
(TT) Control Holds:(Team Takedown)
(TD) Control Holds:(Takedown)
(CE) Chemical
(OC) Chemical Agents (OC Spray)
(TG) Chemical Agents (Tear Gas)
(EX) Explosives
(FH) Firearm (Handgun)
(FR) Firearm (Rifle)
(FS) Firearm (Shotgun)
(FO) Firearm (Other)
(FB) Flashbang
(FL) Flashlight
(OE) Other Weapon: Edged
(OV) Other Weapon: Vehicle
(OB) Other Weapon: Blunt Object
(OO) Other Weapon: Other
(PK) Personal Weapon: Feet/Leg: (Kick)
(PS) Personal Weapon: Feet/Leg: (Sweep)
(PH) Personal Weapon (Hand/Arm)
(PP) Personal Weapon (Push)
(PO) Personal Weapon (Other)
(RS) Resistance
(CN) Restraint Device (Capture Net)
(RH) Restraint Device (Handcuffs)
(HB) Restraint Device:Hobble (Legs Only)
(TP) Restraint Device:Hobble (TARP)
(RE) Restraint Device: REACT Belt
(SP) Sap
(SH) Shield
(SG) 37mm Stinger
(SB) Sting Ball
(ST) Stun Bag
(TR) Taser
(UC) Uncooperative

Type of Injury

(AB) Abrasion
(BR) Bruise
(BU) Burn
(CP) Complaint of Pain
(CO) Concussion
(DH) Death
(DI) Dislocation
(DB) Dog Bite
(FR) Fractures
(GS) Gunshot
(HB) Human Bite
(LC) Lacerations
(ND) Nerve Damage
(OD) Organ Damage
(PA) Paralysis
(PW) Puncture Wound
(SD) Soft Tissue Damage
(ST) Sprain/Twists
(UN) Unconscious
(RM) Refused Med Treatment
(NN) NONE

Body Part Injured

(AD) Abdomen
(AK) Ankle
(AR) Arm
(BK) Back
(BT) Buttocks
(CH) Chest
(EL) Elbow
(FA) Face
(FE) Feet
(FI) Fingers
(GE) Genitals
(GR) Groin
(HD) Hand
(HE) Head
(HI) Hip
(IN) Internal
(KN) Knees
(LE) Leg
(NK) Neck
(SH) Shoulder
(WR) Wrist

Brand

(AK) AK-47
(BN) Benelli
(BR) Beretta
(BW) Browning
(CH) Charter Arms
(CO) Colt
(DA) Davis Industries
(GL) Glock
(HA) Harrington & Richardson
(HI) Hi Standard
(HK) H & K
(IT) Ithica
(IV) Iver Johnson
(JE) Jennings
(LO) Lorcin
(LU) Luger
(MA) Marlin
(MO) Mossberg
(NC) NCI aka SKS
(NA) North American
(NO) Norinco
(RA) Raven
(RM) Remington
(RG) RG
(RI) RGI
(RO) Rossi
(SW) Smith & Wesson
(SR) Sturm Ruger
(SS) SIG Sauer
(ST) Sterling
(TA) Taurus
(WE) Weatherby
(WN) Winchester
(US) US Government
(YY) Handmade (Inmate)
(XX) Homemade (Non-Inmate)
(ZZ) Other Brand

Caliber

(9) 9 mm
(10) 10 mm
(12) 12 guage
(20) 20 guage
(21) .22-250
(22) .22 caliber
(23) .223 caliber
(24) .243 caliber
(25) .25 caliber
(30) .308 caliber
(35) .357 caliber
(36) 30-60 caliber
(38) .38 caliber
(40) .40 caliber
(41) .410 guage
(44) .44 caliber
(45) .45 caliber
(50) 50 mm
(SL) Slug
(WW) Other caliber

FORCE APPLIED *(one code per block)*

Used By (E# or S#)	Used Against (E# or S#)	Method (Code)	Brand (Code)	Caliber (Code)	Authorized Weapon? (Y/N)	Authorized Ammunition? (Y/N)	Type of Injury (Code)	Body Part (Code)
S#1	E#1	OO	ZZ				NN	
S#1	E#2	OO	ZZ				NN	
E#1	S#1	FH	BR	9	Y	Y	DH	CH

Officer Involved Shooting
Involved Employee Information

URN: 012-02089-1132-013

Involved Employee

E 1

Employee # [redacted]	Last Name: Edwards	First Name: Jeremi	M.I.: L.
Sex: M Race: W	Rank: Deputy Sheriff	Unit Assignment: Operation Safe Streets	Work Assignment (Unit #, Module, etc.): OSS G62
ShiftTime (*circle only one*): ☑ EM ☐ PM ☐ Day	ShiftType (*circle only one*): ☑ Regular ☐ Overtime ☐ Off Duty	Intoxication/Drug Usage? ☐	Substance Used: N/A
Hospital Admission? ☐	Hospital Name:	Coroner Case? ☑	Coroner Case # 2012-00793 Interviewed? ☑
Hrs of sleep prior to shooting: 7 or 8	Duty Time (hrs): [redacted]	Clothing (*circle only one*): ☐ Plain Clothes no Vest ☑ Raid Jacket w/ Vest ☐ Plain Clothes w/ Vest ☐ Uniform no Vest ☐ Raid Jacket no Vest ☐ Uniform w/ Vest	Other Factors: N/A
Age: [redacted] Height: 601	Weight: 220		
Range Qualification Date: [redacted]		PPC Qualification Date: [redacted]	Laser Training Date: [redacted]
Certified with Weapon Used? [redacted]	Patrol Certification? [redacted]	Certification Unit: [redacted] Prior Shootings? [redacted]	Number of Prior Shootings: [redacted] Directed Force: [redacted]
Weapons Fired Brand: Beretta	Caliber: 9mm # Shots: 3	Weapons Fired Brand:	Caliber: # Shots:
Field Training Officer Emp # [redacted]			
Field Training Officer Emp #	Last Name	First Name	M.I. [redacted]

E ___

Employee #	Last Name	First Name	M.I.
Sex: Race:	Rank:	Unit Assignment:	Work Assignment (Unit #, Module, etc.):
ShiftTime (*circle only one*): ☐ EM ☐ PM ☐ Day	ShiftType (*circle only one*): ☐ Regular ☐ Overtime ☐ Off Duty	Intoxication/Drug Usage? ☐	Substance Used:
Hospital Admission? ☐	Hospital Name:	Coroner Case? ☐	Coroner Case # Interviewed? ☐
Hrs of sleep prior to shooting:	Duty Time (hrs):	Clothing (*circle only one*): ☐ Plain Clothes no Vest ☐ Raid Jacket w/ Vest ☐ Plain Clothes w/ Vest ☐ Uniform no Vest ☐ Raid Jacket no Vest ☐ Uniform w/ Vest	Other Factors:
Age: Height:	Weight:		
Range Qualification Date:		PPC Qualification Date:	Laser Training Date:
Certified with Weapon Used? ☐	Patrol Certification? ☐	Certification Unit: Prior Shootings? ☐	Number of Prior Shootings: Directed Force: ☐
Weapons Fired Brand:	Caliber: # Shots:	Weapons Fired Brand:	Caliber: # Shots:
Field Training Officer Emp #	Last Name	First Name	M.I.
Field Training Officer Emp #	Last Name	First Name	M.I.

E ___

Employee #	Last Name	First Name	M.I.
Sex: Race:	Rank:	Unit Assignment:	Work Assignment (Unit #, Module, etc.):
ShiftTime (*circle only one*): ☐ EM ☐ PM ☐ Day	ShiftType (*circle only one*): ☐ Regular ☐ Overtime ☐ Off Duty	Intoxication/Drug Usage? ☐	Substance Used:
Hospital Admission? ☐	Hospital Name:	Coroner Case? ☐	Coroner Case # Interviewed? ☐
Hrs of sleep prior to shooting:	Duty Time (hrs):	Clothing (*circle only one*): ☐ Plain Clothes no Vest ☐ Raid Jacket w/ Vest ☐ Plain Clothes w/ Vest ☐ Uniform no Vest ☐ Raid Jacket no Vest ☐ Uniform w/ Vest	Other Factors:
Age: Height:	Weight:		
Range Qualification Date:		PPC Qualification Date:	Laser Training Date:
Certified with Weapon Used? ☐	Patrol Certification? ☐	Certification Unit: Prior Shootings? ☐	Number of Prior Shootings: Directed Force: ☐
Weapons Fired Brand:	Caliber: # Shots:	Weapons Fired Brand:	Caliber: # Shots:
Field Training Officer Emp #	Last Name	First Name	M.I.
Field Training Officer Emp #	Last Name	First Name	M.I.

Officer Involved Shooting
Suspect Information

URN: 012-02089-1132-013

Suspect Information

S 1

Last Name: Handy		First Name: Donald	M.I. C.
AKA Last Name		First Name	M.I.
Sex: M Race: W	Street Address: [redacted]		
Work Ph[redacted]	Home Phone: [redacted]	Social Security #: [redacted]	Driver's License #: [redacted]
Age: 68 D.O.B. 07/16/43	Height: 603 Weight: 177	FBI # [redacted]	CII # [redacted]
Booking # N/A	Primary Charge:	Secondary Charge:	
Coroner Case? ☑	Coroner Case # 2012-00793	Intoxication/Drug Usage? ☑	Substance Used: Methamphetamine
Armed? ☑	Apprehended? ☐	Mental Illness? ☐	Criminal History? [redacted]
Vehicle Make N/A		Model:	Year:

S

Last Name		First Name	M.I.
AKA Last Name		First Name	M.I.
Sex: Race:	Street Address:	City	State & Zip Code:
Work Phone:	Home Phone:	Social Security #:	Driver's License #:
Age: D.O.B.	Height: Weight:	FBI #	CII #
Booking #	Primary Charge:	Secondary Charge:	
Coroner Case? ☐	Coroner Case #	Intoxication/Drug Usage? ☐	Substance Used:
Armed? ☐	Apprehended? ☐	Mental Illness? ☐	Criminal History? ☐
Vehicle Make		Model:	Year:

S

Last Name		First Name	M.I.
AKA Last Name		First Name	M.I.
Sex: Race:	Street Address:	City	State & Zip Code:
Work Phone:	Home Phone:	Social Security #:	Driver's License #:
Age: D.O.B.	Height: Weight:	FBI #	CII #
Booking #	Primary Charge:	Secondary Charge:	
Coroner Case? ☐	Coroner Case #	Intoxication/Drug Usage? ☐	Substance Used:
Armed? ☐	Apprehended? ☐	Mental Illness? ☐	Criminal History? ☐
Vehicle Make		Model:	Year:

S

Last Name		First Name	M.I.
AKA Last Name		First Name	M.I.
Sex: Race:	Street Address:	City	State & Zip Code:
Work Phone:	Home Phone:	Social Security #:	Driver's License #:
Age: D.O.B.	Height: Weight:	FBI #	CII #
Booking #	Primary Charge:	Secondary Charge:	
Coroner Case? ☐	Coroner Case #	Intoxication/Drug Usage? ☐	Substance Used:
Armed? ☐	Apprehended? ☐	Mental Illness? ☐	Criminal History? ☐
Vehicle Make		Model:	Year:

See Other Side

SUPPLEMENTAL EMPLOYEE WITNESSES

Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department

Employee Witnesses

Last Name	First Name	M.I.	Street Address	Zip Code	Work Ph	Home Ph
Rose	Michael	L.	501 West Lancaster Boulevard, Lancaster	93534	661-940-3879	[redacted]
Dieguez	Sarah	A.	301 South Willowbrook Avenue, Compton	90220	310-605-6500	310-605-6506

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY

INCIDENT:	On Duty Hit Shooting
IAB FILE NUMBER(S):	SH2306279
URN#:	012-02089-1132-013
DATE /TIME:	02-02-2012, Wednesday, 2100 hours
LOCATION:	[redacted] Spearman Avenue, Lancaster
INVOLVED PERSONEL:	Deputy Jeremi Edwards #[redacted]
SUSPECT:	Donald Charles Handy MW/68 (Deceased)

OPENING STATEMENT

On Wednesday, February 1, 2012, Internal Affairs Bureau investigators Sergeant Patrick Kim, Sergeant Victor Allen and Lieutenant Alicia E. Ault responded to a command post established by Lancaster Station personnel regarding a Deputy Involved Hit Shooting. Investigators learned that Operation Safe Streets (OSS) Deputy Jeremi Edwards was involved in a hit shooting while serving a search warrant at the above residence.

IAB Note: A copy of the search warrant served at the location is included in this case book. See **Exhibit A**, **pages 56-69**.

SYNOPSIS

The Lancaster OSS Team and the Gang Enforcement Team were serving a search warrant for narcotics at the location. They announced their presence as they knocked on the front door then forced the door open with a ram. Once inside, detectives detained two people in the kitchen of the residence while Detective Edwards and Sergeant Harris covered the entrance to the hallway. Sergeant Harris saw a female Black, later identified as [redacted] walking up the hallway towards them. He told her they were from the Sheriff's Department and were there to serve a warrant. He then ordered her to show him her hands. She raised her hands with her elbows bent as she walked towards them. Sergeant Harris guided her towards another detective in order to finish clearing the back bedroom. Suspect Handy emerged from

the back bedroom with a large, four foot long sword in his hand pointing it towards Sergeant Harris as he lunged at him with it.

> **IAB Note**: Scientific Services Bureau personnel took photographs of the sword. See **Exhibit B**.

Detective Edwards, fearing that Suspect Handy was going to kill Sergeant Harris with the sword, shot him three times. Deputy Welle put out emergency traffic over the radio advising that a deputy involved shooting occurred.

> **IAB Note**: A review of the radio transmissions revealed that Deputy Welle requested assistance regarding a deputy involved shooting over the main frequency (Dispatch 15) at 2101 hours. In addition, he advised that no deputies were injured and requested fire personnel to respond. See **Exhibit C**, compact disc of radio transmissions.

Suspect Handy sustained three gunshot wounds to his left chest area. He was subsequently transported to Antelope Valley Hospital by ambulance under the direction of Los Angeles County Fire Department, Engine 33. Doctor Gurtz pronounced Suspect Handy dead at 2139 hours.

> **IAB Note**: Homicide Bureau's complete case book is included in this case book. See **Exhibit A**.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S LETTER OF OPINION

The case is still being investigated by the District Attorney's office.

INVOLVED PERSONNEL

Detective Jeremi Edwards #[redacted]
Detective Division
Operation Safe Streets Bureau

WORK HISTORY

Date of Employment:	03-01-2006
Date Assigned to Patrol:	01-21-2007
Date Completed Patrol Training:	[redacted]
Date Assigned to Unit:	09-01-2009
Prior Shooting Incident(s):	[redacted]
Prior Founded Force:	

SUSPECT

Donald Charles Handy (Deceased)
MW/68, DOB: 07/16/1943, 604, 190 lbs.
[redacted]

The Consolidated Criminal History System revealed that Suspect Handy [redacted]

IAB Note: A copy of Suspect Handy's Consolidated Criminal History Report is included in the case book. See **Exhibit D**.

EMPLOYEE WITNESSES

Sergeant Allen Harris #[redacted]
Detective Division
Operation Safe Streets Bureau

Detective Charles Kovach #[redacted]
Detective Division
Operation Safe Streets Bureau

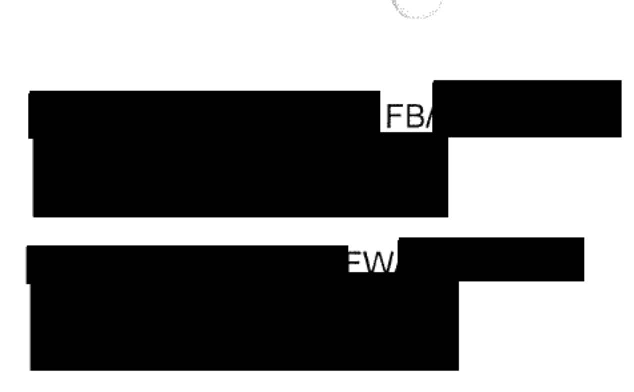
Detective Michael Rose #[redacted]
Detective Division
Operation Safe Streets Bureau

Detective Daniel Welle #[redacted]
Detective Division
Operation Safe Streets Bureau

Detective Sarah Dieguez #[redacted]
Detective Division
Operation Safe Streets Bureau

NON EMPLOYEE WITNESSES

[redacted] MB[redacted]



[redacted] FB/ [redacted]

[redacted] EW/ [redacted]

INJURIES

No deputies were injured during this incident.

Suspect Handy sustained three gunshot wounds to his left chest area. He was transported to Antelope Valley Hospital by ambulance and pronounced dead at 2139 hours.

> **IAB Note**: The coroner's Autopsy Report is included in this case book. See **Exhibit A**, Homicide Book, pages 94-105.

PHYSICAL EVIDENCE

Scientific Services Bureau personnel collected several items of evidence (refer to **Exhibit A**, Homicide Book, pages 89-90 and the sketch of the scene on page 93).

LIGHTING AND WEATHER CONDITIONS

The incident occurred inside a lit residence, but it was dark outside.

DISTANCE

Detective Edwards was approximately five feet away from Suspect Handy when he fired his weapon, but the tip of the suspect's sword was approximately one foot away from Deputy Edwards and Sergeant Harris.

INVESTIGATORS OBSERVATIONS

Internal Affairs Bureau Sergeants Patrick Kim and Victor Allen arrived at the location at 0040 hours. The location was secured by yellow crime scene tape and monitored by personnel from Lancaster Sheriff's Station. The shooting occurred inside a single story residential structure located at [redacted] Spearman Avenue in Lancaster. The residence was on the [redacted] corner of Spearman Avenue and Kildare Street. The exterior of the residence was [redacted] stucco with a gray/brown composite tile roof. The front door was solid wood, white in color, and faced west. Investigators saw a surveillance camera mounted on the south west front corner of the location.

The inside of the residence comprised of a living room, one bedroom and two bathrooms. One bathroom and bedroom were accessible from a hallway from the living room. There was a small dining area next to the kitchen. The rear of the residence had a sunken, converted entertainment room with a half bathroom on the north side of the residence. In addition, there was an entry/exit door on the north rear of the residence. Investigators saw three expended shell casings on the living room floor and a large sword on the hallway floor. Inside the bedroom, they saw a television monitor that received the image from the surveillance camera. The camera captured the entire front yard of the location as well as a view of Spearman Avenue to the north. This was a live feed and was not recorded.

IAB Note: Internal Affairs investigators made almost the same observations as Homicide Bureau investigators. See **Exhibit A**, pages 86-87.

WEAPON USED BY DEPUTY PERSONNEL

Detective Edwards:

Service Weapon Type:	Beretta 92FS, 9mm Semi-Automatic, bearing Serial Number BER[redacted]
Rounds Fired:	Three
Type of Ammunition Used:	WIN 9mm Luger caliber
Date Employee Last Qualified:	[redacted]

IAB Note: An examination of Deputy Edwards' firearm indicated he shot a total of three rounds. Three 9mm casings were recovered at the scene. The Test Fire Exam Report of Deputy Edwards' firearm is included in this case book. See **Exhibit A**, Homicide Book, page 92.

WEAPON USED BY SUSPECT

Sword, large, blade approximately 3 feet in length with a 14 inch black handle

PROPERTY DAMAGE

The front door of the residence was forced open

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATOR(S)/CHARGES FILED

Investigators:	Detectives Margarita Barron #[redacted] and Dameron Peyton #[redacted] assigned to Homicide Bureau
Charges:	None, suspect deceased

INVOLVED EMPLOYEE STATEMENTS

The following is a summary of the recorded interviews of the involved employee statements to Internal Affairs Bureau investigators. For additional information refer to the attached verbatim transcripts included with this case under Transcribed Interviews.

Detective Jeremi Edwards was interviewed by Internal Affairs Bureau Sergeants, Brenda Gibson and Victor Allen, on August 15, 2013, at 1436 hours. He was represented by Attorney Elizabeth Gibbons from Green and Shinee Law Firm. The interview was digitally, audio recorded.

Detective Edwards' statement and description of the incident during this interview was essentially the same as he provided to Homicide detectives. He then answered questions relative to tactics and training.

Detective Edwards was working Operations Safe Streets (OSS) Gang Enforcement Team as OSSG62 with Detective Sarah Dieguez. They had been working together at OSS for a couple of months, but he worked with her at Lancaster Station and on the Target Oriented Policing Team off and on for five or six years. His uniform attire the night of the incident was an OSS entry raid jacket, vest and helmet. Detective Edwards attended a briefing in the OSS office at Lancaster Station prior to serving the search warrant. In addition, assignments were given, but he did not recall who was specifically assigned to what position. He was assigned number five on the Entry Team as well as less lethal with a Taser. In addition, he was assigned to create a diversion or distraction by breaking the windows of the residence if needed. Detective Edwards explained that during normal tactical entries, the team members in the number fifth and sixth positions were designated as the arrest team and guarded the suspects taken into custody.

Detective Edwards' state of mind driving to the residence to serve a search warrant at night was security. He explained that he had served over one thousand tactical entries for probation and parole search warrants. In addition, he authored over a dozen search warrants and saw approximately three tactical entries a day. During the tactical briefing some of the concerns were the possible disposal of narcotics as well as suspects having weapons at the location. He explained that although narcotics users and sellers generally carried weapons, they had no reason to believe weapons were at the location.

Detective Edwards went to the location with Detective Dieguez, but he did not recall who was driving. They parked the vehicle about a house and a half away from the location of the incident. He and the other team members approached the location in a straight line along the sidewalk path. He was in the number five position. He explained that there was not much cover or concealment along the path to the front door. He was unsure who gave the knock and notice, but assumed it was Detective Kovach since it was his warrant.

Once Detective Edwards entered the location, he saw Detective Kovach and another detective in front of a flat screen television set in the living room. They were giving

orders to a man and woman at a table in the kitchen. He believed one person was sitting at the table and the other person was standing by it. He saw Sergeant Harris standing near the end of the L- shaped sofa detaining someone. He was not sure if the person was male or female and he didn't know where the person came from. Detective Edwards made a dynamic entrance utilizing the leapfrog technique and positioned himself at the corner of the wall near the stove. He used the wall as cover and concealment and held that position covering the hallway as other detectives contacted the individuals at the table.

> **IAB Note**: Detective Edwards marked the above positions on a copy of the Scientific Services Bureau Sketch of the inside of the target residence. See **Exhibit E**.

Detective Edwards said the suspect then jumped out of the west bedroom holding a sword, with both hands, in an upright "Samurai" type position, growled then stepped forward towards him. The tip of the sword came downward from the ceiling perpendicular towards him then the suspect made a steering motion to the left towards Sergeant Harris who was turned and to Detective Edwards' right. Detective Edwards feared the suspect would cause great bodily injury to them therefore he engaged the threat and fired three rounds. He explained that he fired one time and the suspect stood up and stopped moving forward, but he was still holding the sword therefore he fired two more times. The suspect dropped the sword and fell through the doorway of the west bedroom. The suspect was within five feet of Detective Edwards at the time he fired his weapon, but the tip of the sword was within a foot. Detective Edwards did not communicate with his team that the suspect had a sword prior to shooting the suspect because it happened very quickly. However, he said he yelled out "shit or fuck," prior to shooting. Detective Edwards said the residence was lit with interior lights. In addition, he did not have a crossfire concern and his shooting backdrop was the hallway. Furthermore, Detective Edwards did not order the suspect to drop the sword and he did not consider other force options because he did not have time and this was a deadly force situation.

After the shooting, Detective Edwards said a detective took his position and he handcuffed the two people that were at the kitchen table. Detective Welle advised over the radio that a deputy involved shooting occurred, requested additional units and contained the area. Detective Edwards did not communicate via the radio because that was not his assigned duty. He explained that the person assigned to the pick or ram and most likely to not be involved in the incident was usually assigned "hot" radio or emergency type radio traffic. After additional units arrived at the location, Detective Edwards went to the rally point which was the radio cars, and remained there.

> **IAB Note**: Homicide investigators summarized their interview of Detective Edwards in a Supplemental Report included in this case book. See **Exhibit A**, pages 71-72. A compact disc containing the audio recording of Detective Edwards' interview is also included in this case book. See **Exhibit C**.

EMPLOYEE WITNESSES

The following is a summary of the recorded interviews of the witness employee statements to Internal Affairs Bureau investigators. For additional information refer to the attached verbatim transcripts included with this case under Transcribed Interviews.

Sergeant Allen Harris was interviewed by Internal Affairs Bureau Sergeants, Brenda Gibson and Catrina Khasaempanth, on September 5, 2013, at 1023 hours. He was represented by Teresa Machado from the Professional Peace Officers' Association. The interview was digitally, audio recorded.

Sergeant Harris' statement and description of the incident during this interview was essentially the same as he provided to Homicide detectives. He then answered questions relative to tactics and training.

Sergeant Harris has been assigned to Operation Safe Streets (OSS) Bureau for the last twenty-four years. On the day of this incident, he was wearing Levis, a black shirt, raid jacket, helmet, full entry vest and a tactical gun belt. He reviewed the search warrant preparation check list prior to this operation. In addition, he approved the operations plan. He did not recall who the watch commander was at Lancaster Station, but he said the watch commander was notified about the search warrant and provided a copy of the operations plan. In addition to an operations plan, Sergeant Harris stated they were required to complete a Tactical Plan worksheet which is a single sheet of paper filled out with the personnel listed, line-up, tactics and retreat if needed.

> **IAB Note**: Sergeant Harris provided a copy of the Tactical Plan he completed. See **Exhibit F**.

They had a briefing in the OSS office at Lancaster Station prior to serving the search warrant. From what Sergeant Harris recalled, the line up on the entry team was as follows: Detective Kovach was number one; he was number three because that's what he always does, Detective Rose was number four, Detective Dieguez was number five and Detective Welle was the ram because he was the biggest person on the team. A pick was not needed because the exterior door was made of wood. Sergeant Harris believed that Detective Edwards was number two. He further explained that Detective Edwards was assigned to less lethal because he had a Taser. They did not use a shield.

Sergeant Harris drove to the location and parked about two houses south of the target residence. It was a cool night with clear skies and calm winds. In addition, the house was on the corner and was well lit with street lights for night time conditions. Furthermore, the lights were on inside the location. They lined up on the sidewalk by their cars and waited until the rear containment deputies were in place on the back side of the residence. Everyone had their weapons out and ready to approach. Once they approached the residence, they did not have cover or concealment, but used the sidewalks of the front yards of the houses south of the target residence. Sergeant

Harris saw the surveillance cameras as they approached and heard about them prior to their entry. They didn't worry about the cameras because they were told by informants that the cameras were possibly dummies. However, they learned later that the cameras were on and live. The television in the bedroom where the suspect emerged from had a view of the front and side of the house with the radio cars in view. The cameras covered the angles that people would make to approach the front door of the residence. The knock and notice was simultaneous because they had information that a paper plate sized pile of narcotics was on the kitchen table and they did not want the suspects to destroy the evidence.

IAB Note: Sergeant Harris audio recorded the knock and notice See **Exhibit C**, compact disc label accordingly.

After they entered the residence, he saw Witness [redacted] and Witness [redacted] around the kitchen table then Witness [redacted] headed towards the kitchen sink out of his view. Detective Kovach went into the kitchen next to the stove while Detective Edwards assisted then positioned himself next to the wall leading into the hallway. Sergeant Harris positioned himself on the opposite wall next to the couch. In addition, Detective Rose was a couple of feet behind him followed by Detective Dieguez. Sergeant Harris believed Detective Welle was near the front door, but he could not see him. Although, Sergeant Harris was positioned on the west side of the hallway, his field of view was on the east side. Detective Edwards was on the east side of the hallway, but his field of view was the west side including the bedroom door.

IAB Note: Sergeant Harris marked the above positions on a copy of the Scientific Services Bureau Sketch of the inside of the target residence. See **Exhibit G**.

Sergeant Harris turned away from the hallway briefly to make sure the detectives dealing with the people in the kitchen were okay and when he turned back, he saw Witness [redacted] walking down the hallway towards them. He told her they had a search warrant and ordered her to show her hands. She raised her hands up, but had her elbows bent. He had his pistol in his left hand when he guided her back to Detectives Rose and Dieguez for securing. As he turned back towards the hallway, he saw Detective Edwards tightening up his face and hand muscles then he saw the tip of a sword coming forward and upward about chest level and about two and a half feet away from him. He then heard somebody cuss followed by three shots. The sword dropped and he "cut the pie" and came around the wall to see what the threat was. Sergeant Harris saw the suspect lying on his back with his arms out at a forty five degree angle downward from his shoulders. The suspect's mouth and eyes were open and he was not moving. Sergeant Harris was afraid for his life and everybody else in that house when he saw the sword.

Sergeant Harris told Detective Edwards to wait in the kitchen because he didn't want him to get involved in another shooting since they had not cleared the rest of the house yet. He then instructed Detective Rose to assist in covering the hallway until the kitchen

was cleared. Meanwhile, Detective Welle quickly requested assistance via the radio because he was assigned the "hot radio."

> **IAB Note**: Homicide investigators summarized their interview of Sergeant Harris in a Supplemental Report included in this case book. See **Exhibit A**, pages 73-74. A compact disc containing the audio recording of Sergeant Harris' interview is also included in this case book. See **Exhibit C.**

Detective Charles Kovach was interviewed by Internal Affairs Bureau Sergeants, Brenda Gibson and Victor Allen, on August 15, 2013, at 1350 hours. He was represented by Attorney Elizabeth Gibbons from Green and Shinee Law Firm. The interview was digitally, audio recorded.

Detective Kovach's statement and description of the incident during this interview was essentially the same as he provided to Homicide detectives. He then answered questions relative to tactics and training.

Detective Kovach has been assigned to Operation Safe Streets (OSS) Bureau for over three years. On the night of this incident, his supervisor was Sergeant Allen Harris. Detective Kovach's uniform consisted of blue jeans, a black t-shirt, an entry vest and a raid jacket. Furthermore, before serving a search warrant, they always provided the concerned station's Watch Commander or Watch Deputy a copy of the Operations Plan. In addition, if the location was on the boarder of two stations, for example, Lancaster and Palmdale, they would verbally notify the boarder station. Detective Kovach authored the search warrant for the target location and completed a search warrant checklist.

> **IAB Note**: Detective Kovach provided a copy of the Search Warrant Preparation Checklist he completed for this incident. See **Exhibit H**.

Detective Kovach received information from his Confidential Reliable Informant (CRI) eight weeks prior to serving the search warrant and wasn't able to act on the information sooner due to a shortage of staff. At some point, Detective Kovach conducted surveillance on the location three to four times and concluded based on his training and experience that narcotics were being sold there. He began writing the search warrant, but it was not a high priority at the time.

On the day of this incident, Detective Kovach's CRI called him and said he had been at the target location and that there was a large amount of methamphetamine on a table in front of the door. Detective Kovach contacted Gang Enforcement Team (GET) Detectives Edwards and Dieguez and had them stay on the outskirts of the target location while he conducted surveillance. During his surveillance, he saw a vehicle pull up to the location. An unidentified person exited the vehicle and went inside the

location for a short time then left. Unfortunately, they were unable to stop that vehicle. Shortly after, a male Black, later identified as [redacted] walked to the location, went inside for a short time then left. Detectives Edwards and Dieguez contacted Mr. [redacted] and recovered methamphetamine from him. Detective Kovach interviewed Mr. [redacted] who confirmed the information he received earlier from his CRI. Detective Kovach then refreshed his warrant and told his sergeant he wanted to serve the warrant that night. He gathered the troops, the GET team and a couple of investigators. In addition, he had his warrant signed by a judge, completed an Operations Plan and a Records and Identifications Bureau packet.

IAB Note: Copies of the search warrant and Operations Plan are included in this case book. See **Exhibit A**, pages 50-69.

Detective Kovach conducted a briefing about the target location at Lancaster Station and gave team members their assignments. He instructed a Lancaster patrol unit to cover the east side on the next street to the east of the location in case of runners. In addition, he contained the north side. Detective Kovach was aware of the camera outside the front door of the target location, but believed it was a dummy camera based on the information he received from his CRI and Mr. [redacted] who was arrested walking from the location. The team formed a line and headed to the target location from the station. They did not have a staging area because the target location was in close proximity to the station. They drove southbound on Sierra Highway to eastbound on Lancaster Boulevard to northbound on Spearman. They parked about two houses south of the location, approached on foot and executed the search warrant.

Detective Kovach was in the number one position with his weapon out as they approached the residence. They didn't have a shield, but they had a little bit of cover and concealment as they walked and tried hugging the face of the house just south of the location. After he completed the knock and notice, he heard sounds of commotion coming from inside the residence which led him to believe people were fleeing or arming themselves, therefore, their entry was quick. Detective Welle was assigned to use the ram, hot radio and secure detainees. The door would not open all the way because there was a couch behind the door. This created a blind spot for them as they entered. Detective Kovach took a step inside the residence and entrusted the number two person behind him to clear the blind spot behind the door. However, he did not recall who the number two person was.

IAB Note: According to the Homicide investigators' interview of Detective Welle, he was assigned the number two position, but he stood by the threshold of the front door for containment while everyone else entered the residence. See **Exhibit A**, page 75.

Detective Kovach saw Witnesses [redacted] and [redacted] sitting at a raised dining room table. He identified himself as being from the Sheriff's Department and ordered them to show their hands. Witness [redacted] immediately got up and went into the kitchen area

where he lost sight of him. Detective Kovach advanced quickly towards the kitchen utilizing the "cutting the pie" technique. He then glanced down the hallway to make sure it was clear before continuing to cut the pie where he positioned himself near the stove. There he saw Witness [redacted] again and ordered him to show his hands. Witness [redacted] showed his hands and sat down at the table.

Detective Kovach heard, "oh, shit!" coming from behind him followed by a "boom, boom, boom." He glanced quickly behind him and saw a "Braveheart" sword laying on the floor and two feet by the bedroom door. He saw Sergeant Harris positioned on the west side of the entrance to the hallway and Detective Edwards was in the space between Sergeant Harris and his position. Detective Kovach told Detective Edwards to hold the hallway area until they cleared the lit kitchen area and a dark sunken family room directly east behind the kitchen wall. In addition, he yelled, "998" (deputy involved shooting), to Detective Welle and told him to advise via the radio and request additional units. According to Detective Kovach, another team member came forward and detained Witnesses [redacted] and [redacted] at the kitchen table while he and Detective Dieguez cleared the south and east side of the residence.

> **IAB Note**: Detective Kovach marked the above positions on a copy of the Scientific Services Bureau Sketch of the inside of the target residence. See **Exhibit I**.

Detective Kovach's state of mind during this incident was heightened. He always anticipates the worst when serving search warrants because they are dangerous. To the best of his knowledge they did not find any narcotics or firearms at the location. In addition, his team did not carry on with the active search warrant search.

> **IAB Note**: Homicide investigators summarized their interview of Detective Kovach in a Supplemental Report included in this case book. See **Exhibit A**, pages 72-73. A compact disc containing the audio recording of Detective Kovach's interview is also included in this case book. See **Exhibit C.**

Detective Michael Rose was interviewed by Internal Affairs Bureau Sergeant Brenda Gibson, by telephone, on November 1, 2013, at 1355 hours. The interview was digitally, audio recorded.

Detective Rose's statement and description of the incident during this interview was essentially the same as he provided to Homicide detectives. He then answered questions relative to tactics and training.

Detective Rose was working the Operation Safe Streets Bureau's Gang Enforcement Team as OSS G66. He was called in from the field to attend a comprehensive briefing conducted by Detective Kovach regarding the service of a search warrant. He was working on a team with Sergeant Harris, Detectives Edwards, Dieguez, Kovach, Welle,

Heins and Alfred Garcia. Detectives Heins and Garcia were on an outer containment outside the target residence. Detective Rose worked with Detectives Edwards, Dieguez and Heins for years and the other team members for at least a couple of months. A tactical briefing was discussed and everyone was given assignments. Detective Rose's assignment was the number four position on the entry team behind Sergeant Harris. In addition, he was going to assist with clearing the location and detaining all persons inside if needed. He rode to the location in the back seat of the vehicle Detectives Edwards and Dieguez were in. They parked the vehicle south of the location along the east curb.

Detective Rose believed Detective Kovach was number one in the line-up followed by Detective Edwards, Sergeant Harris, himself, Detectives Welle and Dieguez. Detective Rose was wearing a helmet, raid jacket, entry vest and jeans. His entry vest and raid jacket were marked with Sheriff's Department placards. They approached the residence on foot lined up one behind the other in order of assignment. He had his gun out and he used the vehicles as cover as much as possible as they approached the residence. It was a clear and dark night, but the street lights were on. Detective Rose was not aware of the surveillance camera mounted on the northwest corner of the residence during his approach. He said they may have mentioned it during their briefing, but he was unsure.

Detective Rose's state of mind during this incident was on high alert due to the high risk situation of the unknown variables inside of the residence. His adrenalin was pumping and he relied on his tactics and the leadership of the abilities and training of his team members. He also relied on the confidence he felt coming out of the briefing. He explained that they had a very good briefing and everyone knew what they were responsible for. Detective Rose said there was a window on the wall they approached the house from. He said the window was ultimately broken by Detective Edwards. He could not remember if the porch light was on to the residence, but lights were on inside the residence. In addition, he did not remember if a ram was used on the front door or if it was kicked in. He also did not remember who breached the door. Once inside of the residence, he heard Sergeant Harris and Detective Kovach giving commands. He saw two cooperative people inside the kitchen. He saw a couple of team members covering the hallway then Detectives Kovach and Dieguez went into the kitchen. Detective Rose stepped onto the middle couch to see if anyone else was in the kitchen near the stove then he stepped back next to Sergeant Harris who was in front of the hallway. Detective Edwards was on the opposite wall covering the hallway.

IAB Note: Detective Rose marked the above positions on a copy of the Scientific Services Bureau Sketch of the inside of the target residence. The arrows he drew on the sketch represent the direction each team member was facing. See **Exhibit J.**

As Detective Rose looked down the hallway, he saw the end of a large blade moving downward and outward pretty close to where Sergeant Harris and Detective Edwards

was standing. According to Detective Rose, the blade was a little bit closer to Sergeant Harris and about a foot and a half from Detective Edwards. He then heard Detective Edwards fire his weapon three times. In addition, through his peripheral vision, he saw the gun recoiling. Suspect Handy fell backwards into the bedroom. Detective Rose did not fire his weapon because he would have been shooting past Sergeant Harris. Furthermore, due to the fact that Suspect Handy advanced so quickly with the sword, they did not have time to order him to drop it. Detective Welle then put out emergency radio traffic over the main frequency.

The inside of the residence was well lit and Detective Rose could see clearly without a flashlight or other illumination. The team members were not in a cross fire situation. Detective Rose did not recall seeing Witness [redacted] emerge from the hallway. He believed this may have occurred while he was standing on the couch clearing the area in the kitchen by the stove. Detective Rose said the two people in the kitchen were escorted out of the residence. He and Sergeant Harris then cleared the rest of the residence.

IAB Note: Homicide investigators summarized their interview of Detective Rose in a Supplemental Report included in this case book. See **Exhibit A**, page 74. A compact disc containing the audio recording of Detective Rose's interview is also included in this case book. See **Exhibit C.**

Detective Daniel Welle was interviewed by Internal Affairs Bureau Sergeant Brenda Gibson, by telephone, on November 4, 2013, at 1049 hours. The interview was digitally, audio recorded.

Detective Welle's statement and description of the incident during this interview was essentially the same as he provided to Homicide detectives. He then answered questions relative to tactics and training.

Detective Welle was working Operation Safe Streets (OSS) Bureau Unit 110G3. Sergeant Harris was his supervisor and he was working with Detectives Kovach, Rose, Edwards, Dieguez and Delia. He worked with most of his teammates for over a year. He attended the search warrant briefing in the OSS office at Lancaster Station. At the briefing they discussed the reason for the search warrant, observations made, how the information was obtained and the plans for entry. Detective Welle was assigned "hot radio" and prisoner security which meant he would be standing by the front door. He explained that being the ram was a typical assignment for him, but he didn't remember specifically being the ram for this incident. Sergeant Harris was assigned the number three position upon entry because that was what he typically was. Detective Welle believed Detective Kovach was number one or two, but he did not recall the other assignments.

Detective Welle was wearing his OSS uniform which consisted of blue jeans, protective vest and green jacket with Sheriff's Department markings. He was not wearing his entry gear because he was not going inside the residence. The team lined up a few houses south of the residence and approached in a single file order according to their assigned positions. They used the fence on the south side of the residence and other obstructions like vehicles for cover during their approach. Detective Welle explained that the pick and ram are always to the rear until they move up to the number two position in order to ram the door. Afterwards, they back off.

Once the door was breached, Detective Welle stood near the arch of the doorway outside the residence while his teammates entered. He maintained a visual on the inside of the residence and waited there to receive any detainees. He did not clear behind the door because that was the entry team's responsibility. He further explained that the number one person through the door would concentrate on what was straight ahead while the number two and three persons would look left and right covering the first person's back. However, the team may have been distracted when they encountered the witnesses in the kitchen immediately after entering the residence. Detective Welle did not recall who specifically was in what position at the time of the shooting, other than Detective Edwards, but he remembered seeing teammates in the living room area.

> **IAB Note**: Detective Welle marked his position and Detective Edwards' position by name, but indicated other teammates by marking an "X" on a copy of the Scientific Services Bureau Sketch of the inside of the target residence. See **Exhibit K.**

Detective Welle heard a lot of commands given and Witnesses [redacted] and [redacted] were detained almost immediately inside the kitchen. Witness [redacted] was also detained inside the residence. He saw Detective Edwards covering the hallway facing south. He then heard him say, "Oh, shit", before he discharged his weapon. He did not see what Detective Edwards was firing at. Detective Welle initiated "10-33" traffic, informed "SCC" (Sheriff's Communication Center) and the station that a shooting occurred and contained the area.

> **IAB Note**: A compact disc containing the audio of the emergency radio traffic transmitted by Detective Welle is included with this case. See **Exhibit C**.

The residence was very well lit during the shooting. Lights were on in the front room, kitchen, bathroom, bedroom and coming from the hallway. The detectives were not in a cross fire situation. Detective Edwards was "blocking" in order for teammates to cross in front of the hallway to contact the witnesses in the kitchen. Detective Welle explained that the team was protected by Detective Edwards against anybody coming out of the hall to harm them.

IAB Note: Homicide investigators summarized their interview of Detective Welle in a Supplemental Report included in this case book. See **Exhibit A**, pages 75-76. A compact disc containing the audio recording of Detective Welle's interview is also included in this case book. See **Exhibit C.**

Detective Sarah Dieguez was interviewed by Internal Affairs Bureau Sergeant Brenda Gibson, by telephone, on November 4, 2013, at 1252 hours. The interview was digitally, audio recorded.

Detective Dieguez' statement and description of the incident during this interview was essentially the same as he provided to Homicide detectives. She then answered questions relative to tactics and training.

Detective Dieguez was working Operation Safe Streets (OSS) Bureau Unit OSSG61 with Detective Edwards. They had been working together for about three months. She attended the briefing held in the OSS office at Lancaster Station. She believed she was assigned the number five position on the entry team, but she was not sure. A tactical plan was discussed during the briefing, but she did not recall what it was. She rode to the location with Detective Edwards who was driving. He parked the vehicle south of the location. They approached the location near the south corner and along the wall to the front door utilizing the corner of the house as cover. Her weapon was drawn and her state of mind was to be tactically aware of her surroundings. The weather was chilly, the porch light was on and the inside of the residence was dim, but well lit. She was not aware of the surveillance camera mounted on the northwest corner of the residence.

Someone yelled "Sheriff's Department, search warrant!" then the door was taken down. Detective Dieguez followed her teammates through the front door and saw Witness [redacted] coming from somewhere between the living room and hallway. Sergeant Harris grabbed her first then she grabbed her. Detective Dieguez saw movement in the hallway, heard "pop,pop," and "Oh, fuck," then she handcuffed Witness [redacted] She did not see Detective Edwards fire his weapon because she was focused on Witness [redacted] She detained Witness [redacted] there while her teammates cleared the hallway. She walked Witness [redacted] out of the residence then returned and cleared the rest of the house with Detective Kovach. They were not in a cross fire situation because they were all in the same general area. She did not know if anyone cleared behind the door, but assumed they did.

IAB Note: Detective Dieguez marked her position and the general area her teammates were in during the shooting on a copy of the Scientific Services Bureau Sketch of the inside of the target residence. See **Exhibit L.**

IAB Note: Homicide investigators summarized their interview of Detective Dieguez in a Supplemental Report included in this case book. See **Exhibit A**, pages 74-75. A compact disc containing the audio recording of Detective Dieguez' interview is also included in this case book. See **Exhibit C.**

NON EMPLOYEE WITNESSES

Witness [redacted] was interviewed by Internal Affairs Bureau Sergeant Brenda Gibson, by telephone, on November 4, 2013, at 1505 hours. Witness [redacted] is currently a prisoner at Chino State Prison for an unrelated incident.

Witness [redacted] was sitting at the kitchen table with Witness [redacted] and Suspect Handy prior to the deputies entering the residence. Witness [redacted] was in the bathroom down the hallway. The "hammer thing" hit the door, "boom, boom, boom" during which time Suspect Handy left the table and went into his bedroom to get a cigarette. The deputies entered the residence and ordered everyone to get down on the floor. He got on the floor, face down, with his head towards the front door. Witness [redacted] got down on the floor onto her stomach next to Witness [redacted] but her head was turned towards Witness [redacted]

The deputies entered the residence and shot Suspect Handy seven times. He did not see the shooting, but he heard the shots. He said Suspect Handy did not have a sword. According to him, two female deputies told him to get on his knees and they searched him while he was on his knees in the kitchen. Deputies dragged Witness [redacted] out of the residence after the shooting then they dragged him out.

IAB Note: Homicide investigators summarized their interview of Witness [redacted] in a Supplemental Report included in this case book. See **Exhibit A**, pages 81. A compact disc containing the audio recording of Witness Allen's interview is also included in this case book. See **Exhibit C.**

IAB Note: Witness [redacted] was contacted by telephone on November 5, 2013, by Internal Affairs Bureau Sergeant Brenda Gibson and she declined to be interviewed regarding this incident. In addition, attempts were made to interview Witness [redacted] but they met with negative results.

Witness [redacted] was interviewed by Homicide Bureau Investigators Angus Ferguson and Teri Bernstein, on February 2, 2012, at approximately 0305 hours. The interview was digitally, audio recorded.

Witness [redacted] arrived at the location about thirty minutes prior to the shooting. She went there to give Witness [redacted] a ride. She was sitting at the kitchen table smoking a cigarette. Witness [redacted] and Suspect Handy were also sitting at the table. Witness [redacted] was in the bathroom. She said Suspect Handy took a cigarette out of her purse while she scratched lottery tickets. When the police arrived, Suspect Handy went towards his bedroom. She was sitting at the kitchen table, facing the east wall and still focused on scratching her lottery tickets. She said she heard a cop yell freeze three times then heard, "bam, bam, bam" two or three times. She then heard Witness [redacted] yell, "Oh, my God, you shot him!" Witness [redacted] could not see down the hallway. She saw the deputy shooting, but she did not see what he was shooting at. In addition, she said Suspect Handy had a collection of knives, but she had never seen him armed with them.

IAB Note: Homicide investigators summarized their interview of Witness [redacted] in a Supplemental Report included in this case book. See **Exhibit A**, pages 83-84. A compact disc containing the audio recording of Witness [redacted] interview is also included in this case book. See **Exhibit C.**

Witness [redacted] was interviewed by Homicide Bureau Investigators Angus Ferguson and Teri Bernstein, on February 2, 2012, at approximately 0232 hours. The interview was digitally, audio recorded.

Witness [redacted] lived at the residence with her boyfriend, Suspect Handy. She returned to her residence with Witness [redacted] then Witness [redacted] arrived shortly after. She was in the bathroom doing her hair and makeup when she heard a "crash" threw the front door. She walked down the hallway to see what was going on and saw Suspect Handy going into their bedroom. She saw a "sheriff" with a gun pointing down the hallway and asked, "Why do you have your gun out, you're not going to shoot anybody are you?" then he shot. She saw the deputy shoot, but she did not see what he was shooting at. She was in the living room at the time with other deputies. A female deputy handcuffed her and took her outside. Witness [redacted] said they had so many knives and swords in the house because they bought them from the knife shop.

IAB Note: Homicide investigators summarized their interview of Witness [redacted] in a Supplemental Report included in this case book. See **Exhibit A**, pages 81-83. A compact disc containing the audio recording of Witness [redacted] interview is also included in this case book. See **Exhibit C.**

MISCELLANEOUS

Internal Affairs Bureau Lieutenant Alicia E. Ault checked to see that the watch commander took reasonable steps to ensure that the involved parties and witnesses did not discuss the incident among themselves or with uninvolved persons prior to being interviewed by the assigned investigators, as well as the involved parties and witness personnel did not collectively consult with their attorney or representative. In addition, Lieutenant Ault checked to see if the watch commander attempted to have the involved parties and witness personnel gather in the company of a supervisor until they had provided a statement to the assigned investigators.

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY
(ADDENDUM)

INCIDENT:	On Duty Hit Shooting
IAB FILE NUMBER(S):	SH2306279
URN#:	012-02089-1132-013
DATE /TIME:	02-02-2012, Wednesday, 2100 hours
LOCATION:	[redacted] Spearman Avenue, Lancaster
INVOLVED PERSONEL:	Deputy Jeremi Edwards #[redacted]
SUSPECT:	Donald Charles Handy MW/68 (Deceased)

NATURE OF ADDENDUM

This investigation was completed on November 8, 2013. On November 19, 2013, I talked to Attorney Bita Shasty assigned to the Office of Independent Review regarding the availability of video of the scene. She asked if video was available since it was previously requested from Homicide detectives. After reviewing the transcript of Sergeant Allen Harris' interview with Internal Affairs Bureau investigators, it was determined that the inside of the residence was videotaped after the shooting. The video depicts paramedics treating Suspect Handy inside the residence then transporting him outside by gurney. It also depicts various rooms inside the residence.

IAB Note: A copy of the Digital Versitile Disc (DVD) is included with this addendum. See **Exhibit M**.